This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application:

## Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method of offering preferred transport in a network, the method comprising:

receiving a first part of a content transmission from a content provider in the network at a transmission device that transmits the content between the content provider and a destination of the content;

receiving an indication of predetermined transport parameters in the network at the transmission device, the indication being contained in the received first part of the content transmission and the indication specifying an increased transmission speed for at least a duration of the content transmission;

setting up and storing entries in a switching table identifying the content transmission based on the content provider and the destination, the entries in the switching table storing ~~specifying~~ the predetermined transport parameters specified by the indication;

receiving a second part of the content transmission in the network from the content provider;

accessing the switching table to determine the predetermined transport parameters for the content transmission; and

the transmission device transmitting the second part of the content transmission in the network in accordance with the predetermined transport parameters, accessed from the switching table, to the destination.

2. (Currently Amended) A transmission device comprising:

a data receiver configured to receive a first part of a content transmission and an indication of predetermined transport parameters contained in the received first part of the content transmission in a network from a content provider, a service logic for grouping the first part of the content

transmission and subsequent parts of the content transmission as a communications flow, the indication specifying an increased transmission speed for at least a duration of the content transmission;

a transmission logic for determining the transmission parameters of the content transmission according to the indication of the predetermined transport parameters;

a transport creation block for creating and storing entries in a switching table identifying the content transmission based on the content provider and ~~the destination,~~ a destination, the entries in the ~~content~~ switching table ~~specifying~~ storing the predetermined transport parameters;

a maintenance component for managing and deleting entries in the switching table that are no longer needed;

a switching apparatus for transporting the first part and subsequent parts of the content transmission in the network to a communications port of [[a]] the destination of the content transmission according to the communications flow determined by the service logic by reference to the entries in the switching table; and

a data transmitter configured to transmit the subsequent parts of the content transmission in the network to the destination in conjunction with the communications port in accordance with the predetermined transport parameters specified by the switching table ~~transmission parameters determined by the transmission logic~~.

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the first part of the content transmission is a command for a particular content transmission.

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 3, wherein the command is a request command for a particular content transmission.

5. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 4, wherein the command is an HTTP GET request command.

6. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 5, wherein the command includes the indication of transport parameters, and wherein the indication of predetermined transport parameters includes a content tag.

7. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 5, wherein the command includes information that is utilized in ~~the return path~~ a return path for the content transmission.

8. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 5, further comprising: receiving a response to the command, wherein the response includes a content tag.

9. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
authenticating a distribution allowed for the content transmission, and
the transmission device authorizing only the allowed distribution of the content transmission.

10. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the predetermined transportation parameters include a preferred level of transport.

11. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein the transport parameters include at least one selected from a group consisting of a predetermined amount of bandwidth, a predetermined quality of service, a predetermined transmission attribute, a predetermined amount of packet loss, and a predetermined amount of jitter.

12. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising: decrypting the indication of transport parameters.

13. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein receiving a first part of the content transmission in the network includes receiving the first part of the content transmission in a node of the network along a transmission path of the content transmission.

14. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the content transmission includes application data.

15. (Previously Presented) The transmission device according to claim 2, wherein the first part of the content transmission is a command for a particular content transmission.

16. (Previously Presented) The transmission device according to claim 15, wherein the command is a request command for a particular content transmission.

17. (Previously Presented) The transmission device according to claim 16, wherein the command is an HTTP GET request command.

18. (Currently Amended) The transmission device according to claim 17, wherein the command includes the indication of predetermined transport parameters, and wherein the indication of predetermined transport parameters includes a content tag.

19. (Previously Presented) The transmission device according to claim 17, wherein the command identifies a return path for the content transmission.

20. (Previously Presented) The transmission device according to claim 17, wherein the data receiver is further configured to receive a response to the command, wherein the response includes a content tag.

21. (Previously Presented) The transmission device according to claim 2, wherein the transport parameters include a preferred level of transport.

22. (Previously Presented) The transmission device according to claim 21, wherein the transport parameters include at least one selected from a group consisting of a predetermined amount of bandwidth, a predetermined quality of service, a predetermined transmission attribute, a predetermined amount of packet loss, and a predetermined amount of jitter.

23. (Previously Presented) The transmission device according to claim 2, further comprising:

a decryption element configured to decrypt the indication of transport parameters.

24. (Previously presented) The transmission device according to claim 2, further comprising:

an authentication element configured to authenticate a distribution allowed for the content transmission; and

an authorization element configured to authorize only allowed distribution of the content transmission.

25. (Currently Amended) A method of offering preferred transport in a peer-to-peer network, the method comprising:

receiving a first part of a content file transmission in the peer-to-peer network from a content provider at a transmission device that transmits the content between the content provider and a destination of the content;

receiving an indication of predetermined transport parameters in the peer-to-peer network, the indication being contained in the received first part of the content file transmission at a transmission device that transmits the content between the content provider and a destination of the content, the indication specifying an increased transmission speed for at least a duration of the content transmission;

setting up and storing entries in a switching table identifying the content file transmission based on the content provider and the destination, the entries in the switching table storing ~~specifying~~ the predetermined transport parameters specified by the indication;

receiving a second part of the content file transmission in the peer-to-peer network at the transmission device;

accessing the switching table to determine the predetermined transport parameters for the content transmission; and

the transmission device transmitting the second part of the content file transmission in the peer-to-peer network in accordance with the predetermined transport parameters dictated by the switching table.

26. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the indication of predetermined transport parameters is contained in a content payload header of the content transmission.

27. (Previously presented) The transmission device according to claim 2, wherein the indication of predetermined transport parameters is contained in a content payload header of the content transmission.

28. (New) The method according to claim 1, further comprising an authentication element receiving a request for authentication of the content transmission through a communications port from the transmission device.

29. (New) The method according to claim 28, wherein the authentication element and the content provider both store a shared authentication key that is used to validate the request by the authentication element.

30. (New) The method according to claim 29, further comprising the authentication element determining if the communications port is registered.

31. (New) The method according to claim 30, further comprising the authentication element determining if a signature, which is associated with the content transmission by the content provider, is encrypted, and wherein the authentication element decrypts the signature with the shared authentication key if the signature is encrypted.

32. (New) The method according to claim 31, further comprising the authentication element determining if the signature is valid and retrieving a transport profile from a database if the signature is valid.

33. (New) The transmission device according to claim 2, further comprising an authentication element that receives a request for authentication of the content transmission through a communications port, wherein the authentication element and the content provider both store a shared authentication key and the authentication element determines if a signature, which is associated with the content transmission, is encrypted, and wherein the authentication element decrypts the signature with the shared authentication key if the signature is encrypted.

34. (New) The transmission device according to claim 32, wherein the authentication element determines if the signature is valid and retrieves a transport profile from a database if the signature is valid.